

POLS 492Q
Women's Suffrage and Gender Politics
16 January 2002

Suffragist Paper

Your assignment is to write an 8-page paper in which you describe and analyze a prominent activist in the women's suffrage movement. Papers must adhere to the formatting guidelines set out in the Style Guide. The paper is **due in class on Tuesday, February 18th**. My policy is to deduct a quarter grade for every day an assignment is late. You should also create a one-page overview for distribution to the rest of the class. We will spend two days presenting and discussing the various suffrage activists.

The goal of this paper is to use the lives, writings, and experiences of specific suffrage activists to examine the many reasons that women advocated suffrage and the many ways in which different women participated in the struggle for female enfranchisement. Suffragist papers should not simply provide a biography of a particular woman, but offer an analysis of the person's contribution to the suffrage movement, her motivations and beliefs, her choices for strategy and activism (and why), her context and situation, and what this activist helps us understand about the suffrage movement as a whole.

Questions addressed by your paper might include: Why did she support woman suffrage? What tactics did she prefer / advocate, and why? What role did she play in the woman suffrage movement (author, formal leader, etc)? Did she put forward a general philosophy or were her views limited to suffrage? Were there other issues or causes with which she was associated, and how were those related to her advocacy of suffrage? With whom was she allied with and why? With whom was she in conflict with and why? What was her contribution to the woman suffrage movement?

From the list below, choose and rate your top 3 choices. E-mail your choices to me by **5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21st**. Once I have everyone's choices, I will draw names out of a figurative hat; the first person I draw will get his/her first choice, and so on down the line. If you would like to write about someone not on this list, let me know; in most cases, I'll approve the choice.

Susan B. Anthony (2)
Elizabeth Cady Stanton (2)
Lucy Stone
Angelina and Sarah Grimké
Florence Kelley
Jane Addams
Carrie Chapman Catt
Anna Howard Shaw
Alice Paul
Lucretia Mott
Julia Ward Howe
Frances Willard
Victoria Woodhull